

obligation on the state for doing that, and they have also taken charge of our entire grain business. They bring down the vote every year and indemnify themselves by the fees they charge for grading and weighing. Now, if the same state is going to say that this wheat which they put out is not quite up to the mark in some respects; that it is embarrassing some of our best customers in England and Scotland especially, and that they will provide them with another suitable wheat—and Mr. Newman intimated that a lot of other wheats were coming along—if they are let alone and some people are not too fussy I believe this condition will solve itself. Now, would not that be a fairer way of treating the present Garnet growers than to say that you cannot use this precious name "Manitoba" any longer? Manitoba wheat is known all over the world as an especially good wheat, but you cannot get Garnet into it any longer. The same state that encouraged those farmers to grow Garnet should surely somehow let them down a little easily. I submit that for your consideration, and whether that comes under your purview or not you might think it over and give us later the benefit of your cogitations. However, the question I would like to ask you is this: do you think, after having reviewed such authorities as I have given you, as Mr. Urquhart, that there are as many complaints to-day; and have you heard a single complaint by any such name as Mr. Urquhart during the last four years?—A. I have not the complaints here in detail, but we have had plenty of complaints, and I think we always will have them, particularly from the U.K. I think the complaints which you mentioned—of course I do not want to enter into an argument with you—were exaggerated by the miller with the view of getting more for their money.

Q. Exactly?—A. The buyer always wants the most he can get for his money.

Q. Of course, that is so; and it is quite possible that that is what is actuating our millers now?—A. No.

Q. You know what is said about the miller's cow; it is always in good order. But would not the same human nature possibly prevail among our millers during these hard times to get something a little cheaper than they are getting it now?—A. It might be.

*By Mr. Weir:*

Q. Could you tell us, Mr. Smith, the attitude of the grain trade towards hedging with reference to Garnet wheat if it were put in a separate grade?—A. We have been talking that over, but until we know what the standards would be and until this matter is settled and the standards are set, we, of course, could not properly determine even what price we should start it at on future deliveries. We are anxious, and the trade is entirely anxious and willing, and not only that, but they will co-operate in any plan, not only because they require to, but they will whole-heartedly co-operate in whatever may be done in connection with this matter; but they cannot very well, until the standards are set and until everything is centred, set a delivery price on any of their futures, but they can after that.

Q. Supposing it were decided to put Garnet into a separate grade this year, how long would it be after that announcement was made before the grain trade would be able to express their opinion with reference to hedging? Some two years ago it had almost been put on the board, had it not?—A. Yes, it was considered.

Q. What was the spread they had in mind, do you remember? I think it was 8 cents, was it not?—A. I do not remember exactly, but I think it was 5 cents below on the 1 Northern and 3 cents below on the 2 Northern. Maybe Mr. Evans could answer that.

Mr. EVANS: I think it was 8 cents at that time—two years ago.